

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11

OMB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /071 W
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R 270409Z JAN 76

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2733

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0092

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, IR

SUBJ: GULF NOMENCLATURE

1. IN ABSENCE OF IRANIAN AMBASSADOR WHO HAS RETURNED TO TEHRAN, IRANIAN EMBASSY CHARGE DISTRIBUTED TO THE OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN BAGHDAD A SUMMARY OF THE EDITORIAL WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN TEHRAN BY KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL ON JAN 8 ON SUBJECT OF GULF NOMENCLATURE. AMONG OTHER THINGS, SUMMARY STATES THAT USE OF NAME ARAB GULF IS "SOMETHING NO IRANIAN COULD TOLERATE, EVEN IF THAT MEANS THE DISMATLING OF IRAN'S FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED."

2. IRAQI REGIME HAS MADE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH IRAN AS SYMBOLIZED BY SADDAM HUSSEIN'S UNPRECEDENTED APPEARANCE AT IRAN'S LAST NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION IN BAHGDAD. NOW THAT SHAH HAS RESORTED TO PUBLIC THREATS AGAINST IRAQI GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, IRAQI REGIME WILL PROBABLY DECIDE THAT BACKING DOWN WOULD INVOLVE UNACCEPTABLE LOSS OF FACE. WE EXPECT
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IRAQIS WILL REPLY WITH ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR OTHER USES OF THE

ARAB GULF NAME IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE TO SHAH THAT THEY CANNOT BE PUSHED AROUND. OUTLOOK IS DISTINCTLY STORMY FOR IRAN-IRAQ RELATIONS.

3. ALTHOUGH NO COMPROMISE APPEARS POSSIBLE AT PRESENT, WE PREDICT THAT DE FACTO ARRANGEMENT WILL EVENTUALLY BE QUIETLY WORKED OUT AFTER PUBLIC PASSIONS HAVE BEEN SPENT. IN MEANTIME, HOWEVER, WE WOULD JUDGE THAT THIS EMOTIONAL ISSUE HAS POTENTIAL FOR CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL DISRUPTION IN GULF AREA.
WILEY

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